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OKLAHOMA LABOR MARKET

FEBRUARY 1988

The Oklahoma Labor Market is published monthly by the Research Department of the Oklahoma Employment Security Commission

The Oklahoma Labor Market provides information from household and industry surveys. Employment, unemployment, insured claimant characteristics, hours and earnings data are compiled and analyzed.

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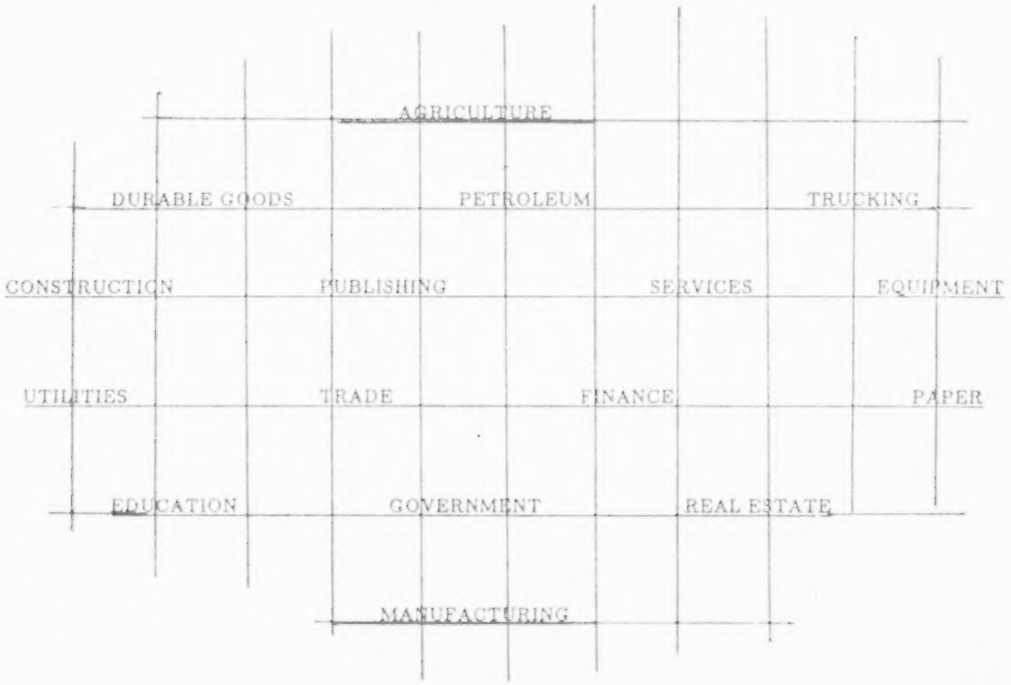

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EMPLOYMENT REBOUNDS - JOBLESS DOWN 12 PERCENT

Total employment in Oklahoma, based on the latest Department of Labor Household Survey, rose to 1,415,800 in February. This 3,900 increase was somewhat contrary to the historical trend during this estimation period, but was a normal response to the larger than normal decline in January; due to adverse weather conditions.

The number of estimated unemployed dropped 13,500 this month, an 11.7 percent contraction from January. This decline, along with the rising employment, combined to reduce the unemployment rate to 6.7 percent of the statewide labor force in February. This re-emphasizes the downward trend which has been observed for the past several months, but which was interrupted by the January aberration.

Over the year, the total civilian labor force has fallen 49,000. Fortunately, only 30 percent of the decline was due to lower employment. The remaining 70 percent of the drop in the labor force was the result of 34,100 fewer people being unemployed.

PAYROLL SERIES SLIGHTLY HIGHER

As anticipated, the nonagriculture wage and salary employment level rose seasonally between January and February. The 8,400 increase brought the total up to 1,086,200.

The industry segment to exhibit the greatest gain was government, where 8,300 were reported back on the payroll. All of the monthly spurt was in state and local education where support personnel returned for the Spring semester. The service industry also recorded a 2,100 gain. Employment gains were also estimated in construction as well as transportation-public utilities.

Four industries lost jobs over the month. The largest loss occurred in trade, down 1,800 from January levels. Weakness also continued in mining, manufacturing, and finance-insurance-real estate.

Compared to a year ago, the current estimated total of wage and salary workers was 9,700 lower. Over 75 percent of the yearly drop came in two industries - trade and construction. Also continuing on a downward path over the year was finance-insurance-real estate and transportation-public utilities. Manufacturing, on the other hand, was unchanged over the last 12-month period.

Three industries expanded job levels during the past year. Led by employment gains in health and personal service, services was able to record a 2,900 yearly increase. Mining was also a surprising winner, up 2,200 for the year. Government employment moved up slightly.

WAGES FALL SLIGHTLY

The average weekly earnings of the 110,700 manufacturing production workers in Oklahoma were down slightly in February from the revised January estimate, but were still over $11.00 higher than a year ago. A loss of 15 cents per hour was the primary reason for the decline, as overtime pay was significantly reduced this month.

Durable goods workers lost almost $10.00 per week while those producing nondurables fell a little over $4.00 on the average.

The widest swings among durables occurred in instruments and related products, where earnings jumped almost $27.00, and transportation equipment workers with a $20.00 drop. In nondurables, petroleum refining gained $10.00 per week while apparel and other textile producers saw their pay decline by a like amount. All of the adjustments were due to changes in hourly wage rates, not in hours worked.

Compared to February 1987, durables gained almost $18.00 per week, while the weekly paycheck in the nondurable sector remained flat.

In nonmanufacturing industries, the greatest monthly change was the estimated $13.00 gain by construction workers. The $27.00 weekly rise by workers in wholesale trade was the most significant annual change.

JOBLESS RATES BETTER IN 75 COUNTIES

The unemployment rate declined in 75 of Oklahomas' 77 counties in February. Only Beaver and Cotton counties recorded higher jobless rates than was estimated for January. The rates ranged from a low 3.1 percent in Ellis, Grant and Woods counties, to a high of 16.4 percent in Hughes county. Only 8 counties across the state still exhibit double-digit unemployment rates.

The jobless rate also dropped in all four of the Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Since last February, the unemployment rate has declined statewide, in all of the Metropolitan Statistical Areas, and in 74 of the individual counties. Beaver, Cotton and Muskogee counties are the only exceptions to the generally downward trend.

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX
ALL URBAN CONSUMERS - 116.0

UNEMPLOYMENT RATES (UNADJUSTED)		AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS IN MANUFACTURING (UNADJUSTED)	
UNITED STATES	6.2%	UNITED STATES	40.7
OKLAHOMA	6.7%	OKLAHOMA	41.1
OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	5.5%	OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	40.9
TULSA MSA	7.5%	TULSA MSA	41.1
LAWTON MSA	5.2%		
ENID MSA	5.9%		

AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS
OKLAHOMA MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

	PRODUCTION WORKERS	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	FEB 1988p	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	110.7	419.63	426.83	408.36	41.1	41.2	41.5	10.21	10.36	9.84
Durable Goods	70.9	449.08	458.71	431.10	41.2	41.4	42.1	10.90	11.08	10.24
Stone,Clay & Glass	7.9	456.25	459.19	449.63	42.6	42.4	42.7	10.71	10.83	10.53
Primary Metal Ind.	3.4	443.23	444.57	426.51	43.2	43.8	43.7	10.26	10.15	9.76
Fab.Metal Products	10.9	366.80	365.16	347.53	41.4	40.8	38.7	8.86	8.95	8.98
Fab.Struct.Metals	4.4	356.14	353.64	348.33	41.8	41.9	39.9	8.52	8.44	8.73
Mach.Except Elect.	20.7	449.53	463.83	419.92	41.7	41.9	46.4	10.78	11.07	9.05
Oil Field Machinery	3.4	386.68	380.81	379.53	39.7	38.7	37.1	9.74	9.84	10.23
Elec.& Elec. Equip.	6.2	454.12	464.62	453.61	42.6	42.2	41.2	10.66	11.01	11.01
Transport. Equip.	15.5	537.46	557.74	511.82	38.5	39.5	39.1	13.96	14.12	13.09
Instr./Related Prod	1.7	534.02	507.65	453.00	47.3	45.9	43.6	11.29	11.06	10.39
Non-Durable Goods	39.8	367.69	371.78	367.64	40.9	40.9	40.4	8.99	9.09	9.10
Food & Kindred Prod	8.2	331.89	332.64	321.09	41.8	42.0	41.7	7.94	7.92	7.70
Apparel & Other Text.	7.8	202.27	212.74	188.86	39.2	40.6	36.6	5.16	5.24	5.16
Paper & Allied Prod.	2.8	419.04	413.44	427.80	43.2	38.0	43.3	9.70	10.88	9.88
Printing & Publish.	5.4	387.08	395.11	387.18	39.7	40.4	40.5	9.75	9.78	9.56
Newspapers & Period.	1.7	353.05	359.29	380.60	37.8	38.8	38.6	9.34	9.26	9.86
Petroleum Refining	4.0	568.28	558.11	491.24	42.6	42.8	40.2	13.34	13.04	12.22
Non-Manufacturing										
Oil & Gas Extract.	18.6	474.01	468.64	488.25	41.8	40.4	43.4	11.34	11.60	11.25
Construction	23.3	410.26	397.46	414.73	36.5	34.0	37.6	11.24	11.69	11.03
Public Utilities	21.6	517.86	523.30	525.85	41.1	41.4	41.9	12.60	12.64	12.55
Wholesale Trade	44.7	388.48	378.69	361.75	39.4	38.8	38.2	9.86	9.76	9.47
*Retail Trade	116.7	185.40	185.44	189.35	30.0	30.4	30.2	6.18	6.10	6.27

**Excludes eating and drinking establishments.*

OKLAHOMA LABOR FORCE
SUMMARY TABLE

(*By Place of Residence)

ITEM	NUMBER (In Thousands) FEB 1988p	JAN 1988	FEB 1987	PERCENT CHANGE JAN 88 FEB 88	ABSOLUTE CHANGE JAN 88 FEB 88	FEB 87 FEB 88
Total Civilian Labor Force	1,517.8	1,527.4	1,566.8	-0.6	-9.6	-49.0
Unemployment	102.0	115.5	136.1	-11.7	-13.5	-34.1
Unemployment Rate	6.7	7.6	8.7	XXX	XXX	XXX
Total Employment	1,415.8	1,411.9	1,430.7	0.3	3.9	-14.9
Agriculture	40.4	41.9	33.5	-3.6	-1.6	6.9
Domestic Service-Self-Employed-Unpaid Family Workers	131.4	129.6	136.3	1.4	1.8	-4.9
Idled by Labor Disputes	0.3	0.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3

*Labor force data refers to place of residence, as required by the U. S Department of Labor. As a result, these estimates remove the effect of multiple jobholders and nonresident commuters included in wage and salary employment on a place-of-work basis. Workers idled by labor disputes are counted in total employment.

p=preliminary
r=revised

NON-AGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

(By place of Work)

INDUSTRY	NUMBER (In Thousands)			PERCENT CHANGE	ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	JAN 88 FEB 88	JAN 88 FEB 88	FEB 87 FEB 88
Total Wage & Salary Workers	1,086.2	1,077.8	1,095.9	0.8	8.4	-9.7
Manufacturing	154.3	154.6	154.3	-0.2	-0.3	0.0
Durable Goods	95.1	95.0	95.4	0.1	0.1	-0.3
Lumber & Wood Prod.	2.7	2.7	2.5	0.0	0.0	0.2
Stone,Clay & Glass Prod.	9.8	9.8	10.6	0.0	0.0	-0.8
Primary Metal Industries	4.2	4.2	3.8	0.0	0.0	0.4
Fabricated Metal Prod.	14.3	14.4	13.7	-0.7	-0.1	0.6
Fab.Struct.Metal Prod.	6.4	6.6	6.3	-3.0	-0.2	0.1
Machinery Exc.Electrical	29.6	29.6	29.2	0.0	0.0	0.4
Constr. & Related Mach.	9.4	9.3	9.3	1.1	0.1	0.1
Oil Field Machinery	6.0	5.9	5.4	1.7	0.1	0.6
Gen.Industrial Mach.	4.7	4.7	4.4	0.0	0.0	0.3
Elect.& Electronic Equip.	8.8	8.7	9.1	1.1	0.1	-0.3
Transportation Equip.	19.0	19.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	-1.0
Motor Vehicle & Equip.	10.8	10.8	11.4	0.0	0.0	-0.6
Aircraft & Parts	7.5	7.5	8.0	0.0	0.0	-0.5
Instruments & Rel.Prod.	2.7	2.7	2.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Non-Durable Goods	59.2	59.6	58.9	-0.7	-0.4	0.3
Food & Kindred Prod.	14.0	14.3	14.0	-2.1	-0.3	0.0
Apparel & Textile Prod.	8.8	8.9	8.3	-1.1	-0.1	0.5
Paper & Allied Prod.	3.5	3.5	3.4	0.0	0.0	0.1
Printing & Publishing	10.8	10.8	11.1	0.0	0.0	-0.3
Newspapers & Period.	5.5	5.5	5.9	0.0	0.0	-0.4
Petroleum & Coal Prod.	7.3	7.3	7.3	0.0	0.0	0.0
Petroleum Refining	6.7	6.7	6.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Rubber/Misc.Plast.Prod.	10.6	10.5	10.5	1.0	0.1	0.1
Tires & Inner Tubes	5.8	5.7	5.8	1.8	0.1	0.0
Non-Manufacturing	931.9	923.2	941.6	0.9	8.7	-0.7
Mining	43.2	44.4	45.4	-2.7	-1.2	2.2
Oil & Gas Extraction	40.6	41.8	42.8	-2.9	-1.2	-2.2
Construction	30.2	28.8	32.6	4.9	1.4	-2.4
HV Const.Contractors	6.5	5.4	7.4	20.4	1.1	-0.9
Transp.& Pub. Utilities	61.1	61.0	62.8	0.2	0.1	-1.7
Transportation	33.0	32.8	33.0	0.6	0.2	0.0
Railroad Transportation	1.8	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
Trucking & Warehousing	16.1	15.8	15.8	1.9	0.3	0.3
Pipe Lines,exc.Nat.Gas	1.5	1.4	1.4	7.1	0.1	0.1
Comm.&Elec/Gas/San Service	28.1	28.2	29.8	-0.4	-0.1	-1.7
Wholesale & Retail Trade	259.8	261.6	264.9	-0.7	-1.8	-5.1
Wholesale Trade	58.2	58.6	58.4	-0.7	-0.4	-0.2
Retail Trade	201.6	203.0	206.5	-0.7	-1.4	-4.9
Gen.Merchandise Stores	28.8	30.2	27.6	-4.6	-1.4	1.2
Department Stores	12.2	12.8	12.0	-4.7	-0.6	0.2
Food Stores	36.0	35.5	37.0	1.4	0.5	-1.0
Auto.Dlrs/Ser.Station	24.4	24.6	24.7	-0.8	-0.2	-0.3
Apparel & Acces.Stores	11.9	12.0	13.2	-0.8	-0.1	-1.3
Fin,Insur.& Real Estate	57.0	57.2	59.3	-0.3	-0.2	-2.3
Banking	18.4	18.5	19.4	-0.5	-0.1	-1.0
Credit Agenc.OT Banks	9.4	9.3	9.9	1.1	0.1	-0.5
Insurance Carriers	7.9	7.9	8.8	0.0	0.0	-0.9
Services	228.3	226.2	225.4	0.9	2.1	2.9
Hotels & Lodging Places	11.6	11.2	11.0	3.6	0.4	0.6
Personal Services	13.7	13.6	12.5	0.7	0.1	1.2
Motion Pictures	1.3	1.3	1.4	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Health Services	74.4	74.4	71.9	0.0	0.0	2.5
Hospitals	29.5	29.5	28.2	0.0	0.0	1.3
Educational Services	10.4	9.3	13.1	11.8	1.1	-2.7
Government, Total	252.3	244.0	251.2	3.4	8.3	1.1
Federal Government	50.5	50.5	52.6	0.0	0.0	-2.1
*State Government	71.3	67.2	69.7	6.1	4.1	1.6
Local Government	130.5	126.3	128.9	3.3	4.2	1.6

p=preliminary
r=revised

* Employment levels for State Government as measured by full-time (FTE) are as follows; FEB 1988-57,291, JAN 1988-55,214, FEB 1987-56,545. A FTE is based on a 40-hour work week and an average 173-hour work month. The FTE count is determined by dividing total person-hours worked per month by 173.

FEBRUARY 1988

OKLAHOMA LABOR FORCE DATA

METROPOLITAN AREAS AND COUNTIES

AREA	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	FEB 88	JAN 88	FEB 87
U. S.	112,460,000	7,482,000	119,942,000	6.2	6.3	7.2
OKLAHOMA	1,415,800	102,000	1,517,800	6.7	7.6	8.7
COUNTIES						
1 AIR	7,700	500	8,200	6.1	7.4	9.1
2 ALFALFA	3,170	130	3,300	3.9	4.4	4.9
3 ATOKA	7,700	620	8,320	7.5	7.9	9.3
4 BEAVER	2,800	170	2,970	5.7	5.4	3.6
5 BECKHAM	7,040	630	7,670	8.2	8.8	13.9
6 BLAINE	5,780	370	6,150	6.0	6.5	7.9
7 BRYAN	13,550	770	14,320	5.4	5.8	8.3
8 CADDO	11,080	1,290	12,370	10.4	11.2	11.4
9 CANADIAN	33,500	2,075	35,575	5.8	6.6	6.7
10 CARTER	18,875	1,475	20,350	7.2	7.6	10.6
11 CHEROKEE	14,820	1,250	16,070	7.8	8.5	10.7
12 CHOCTAW	4,710	680	5,390	12.6	14.9	18.2
13 CIMARRON	1,430	70	1,500	4.7	6.4	5.2
14 CLEVELAND	79,700	4,225	83,925	5.0	5.7	6.4
15 COAL	2,370	340	2,710	12.5	14.4	16.1
16 COMANCHE	46,475	2,525	49,000	5.2	5.5	5.4
17 COTTON	2,780	150	2,930	5.1	4.8	4.5
18 CRAIG	5,990	430	6,420	6.7	7.5	11.1
19 CREEK	25,850	2,475	28,325	8.7	9.5	12.4
20 CUSTER	13,170	680	13,850	4.9	5.3	6.7
21 DELAWARE	10,780	890	11,670	7.6	7.9	11.5
22 DEWEY	2,170	120	2,290	5.2	7.7	9.5
23 ELLIS	3,090	100	3,190	3.1	4.9	5.3
24 GARFIELD	27,825	1,750	29,575	5.9	6.6	8.6
25 GARVIN	11,610	810	12,420	6.5	7.6	10.7
26 GRADY	16,520	1,490	18,010	8.3	9.3	10.8
27 GRANT	2,780	90	2,870	3.1	3.7	5.5
28 GREER	2,760	130	2,890	4.5	6.1	6.2
29 HARMON	1,600	120	1,720	7.0	8.7	7.6
30 HARPER	2,170	100	2,270	4.4	6.5	5.2
31 HASKELL	3,830	550	4,380	12.6	14.4	15.9
32 HUGHES	4,470	880	5,350	16.4	17.4	18.7
33 JACKSON	10,630	660	11,290	5.8	6.7	6.4
34 JEFFERSON	3,440	250	3,690	6.8	7.3	10.8
35 JOHNSTON	3,770	250	4,020	6.2	7.5	7.1
36 KAY	24,250	1,450	25,700	5.6	5.9	8.0
37 KINGFISHER	6,340	340	6,680	5.1	6.6	8.7
38 KIOWA	4,900	250	5,150	4.9	5.7	5.8
39 LATIMER	4,180	360	4,540	7.9	8.5	12.1
40 LEFLORE	18,170	1,370	19,540	7.0	7.7	8.4
41 LINCOLN	10,940	1,140	12,080	9.4	10.7	11.9
42 LOGAN	13,200	600	13,800	4.3	5.6	6.4
43 LOVE	3,900	210	4,110	5.1	5.6	7.3
44 McCLAIN	10,550	610	11,160	5.5	5.8	7.3
45 McCURTAIN	13,800	1,270	15,070	8.4	10.3	11.7

COUNTIES	EMPLOYMENT	UNEMPLOYMENT	LABOR FORCE	FEB 88	JAN 88	FEB 87
46 McINTOSH	6,430	400	6,830	5.9	6.2	7.5
47 MAJOR	3,300	250	3,550	7.0	8.7	10.3
48 MARSHALL	4,170	270	4,440	6.1	7.2	8.9
49 MAYES	13,010	1,320	14,330	9.2	10.7	13.3
50 MURRAY	5,340	480	5,820	8.2	9.0	12.1
51 MUSKOGEE	28,800	2,975	31,775	9.4	9.9	9.1
52 NOBLE	4,610	280	4,890	5.7	6.4	8.1
53 NOWATA	3,940	400	4,340	9.2	10.8	12.2
54 OKFUSKEE	5,660	510	6,170	8.3	9.8	10.3
55 OKLAHOMA	306,800	18,200	325,000	5.6	6.4	6.7
56 OKMULGEE	13,450	1,650	15,100	10.9	11.5	11.5
57 OSAGE	15,700	1,150	16,850	6.8	7.8	7.5
58 OTTAWA	10,875	1,175	12,050	9.8	10.5	20.2
59 PAWNEE	7,110	750	7,860	9.5	11.0	11.8
60 PAYNE	30,650	1,425	32,075	4.4	4.7	5.8
61 PITTSBURG	16,000	2,075	18,075	11.5	12.3	12.3
62 PONTOTOC	16,320	1,170	17,490	6.7	7.4	8.0
63 POTTAWATOMIE	25,075	1,800	26,875	6.7	8.0	8.9
64 PUSHMATAHA	4,380	330	4,710	7.0	8.3	8.9
65 ROGER MILLS	1,880	140	2,020	6.9	8.6	12.2
66 ROGERS	22,010	2,060	24,070	8.6	9.9	11.6
67 SEMINOLE	9,080	1,110	10,190	10.9	12.0	14.7
68 SEQUOYAH	16,390	1,260	17,650	7.1	9.3	8.9
69 STEPHENS	15,900	1,340	17,240	7.8	9.0	14.0
70 TEXAS	7,890	440	8,330	5.3	5.7	6.2
71 TILLMAN	4,340	310	4,650	6.7	6.9	10.0
72 TULSA	230,300	18,050	248,350	7.3	8.1	9.3
73 WAGONER	18,820	1,560	20,380	7.7	8.2	9.2
74 WASHINGTON	22,760	1,300	24,060	5.4	6.1	7.5
75 WASHITA	5,180	390	5,570	7.0	7.2	10.0
76 WOODS	5,280	170	5,450	3.1	5.2	3.8
77 WOODWARD	8,250	680	8,930	7.6	10.2	12.1
OKLAHOMA CITY MSA	468,800	27,500	496,300	5.5	6.4	6.8
TULSA MSA	312,700	25,300	338,000	7.5	8.3	9.6

SERVICE DELIVERY AREAS

A-NORTHWEST	33,100	1,900	35,000	5.4
B-SOUTHWEST	47,100	3,000	50,100	6.0
C-NORTH CENTRAL	78,000	4,600	82,600	5.6
D-SOUTH CENTRAL	111,100	8,000	119,100	6.7
E-CENTRAL	364,700	21,300	386,000	5.5
F-TULSA	271,800	21,700	293,500	7.4
G-EAST CENTRAL	93,000	7,600	100,600	7.6
H-SOUTHERN	87,600	6,400	94,000	6.8
I-NORTHEAST	89,400	7,600	97,000	7.8
J-EASTERN	106,400	9,600	116,000	8.3
K-SOUTHEAST	65,100	6,600	71,700	9.2
L-CLEVELAND	68,500	3,800	72,300	5.3

OKLAHOMA CITY
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	Thousands			Percent Change	Absolute Change	
	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r		JAN 88 FEB 88	FEB 87 FEB 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	396.5	392.9	398.5	0.9	3.6	-2.0
MANUFACTURING	46.6	47.1	47.1	-1.1	-0.5	
DURABLE GOODS	32.0	32.3	32.4	-0.9	-0.3	-0.4
Primary & Fabricated Metals	4.3	4.3	4.2	0.0	0.0	0.1
Fab.Struc.Metal Products	1.8	1.8	1.6	0.0	0.0	0.2
Machinery	13.5	13.6	13.8	-0.7	-0.1	-0.3
Mach. Except Electric	10.6	10.7	10.9	-0.9	-0.1	-0.3
Electric & Electronic Equip.	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.0	0.0	0.0
Transportation Equipment	9.9	10.1	9.9	-2.0	-0.2	0.0
NON-DURABLE GOODS	14.6	14.8	14.7	-1.4	-0.2	-0.1
Food and Kindred Products	5.0	5.1	5.0	-2.0	-0.1	0.0
Printing & Publishing	4.2	4.3	4.4	-2.3	-0.1	-0.2
MINING	10.9	11.0	11.6	-0.9	-0.1	-0.7
CONSTRUCTION	11.8	11.2	11.4	5.4	0.6	0.4
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	18.9	19.0	19.8	-0.5	-0.1	-0.9
Transportation	9.2	9.2	9.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Comm. & Public Utilities	9.7	9.8	10.7	-1.0	-0.1	-1.0
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	97.9	98.3	99.4	-0.4	-0.4	-1.5
Wholesale Trade	21.9	22.1	22.3	-0.9	-0.2	-0.4
Retail Trade	76.0	76.2	77.1	-0.3	-0.2	-1.1
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	23.9	23.9	24.7	0.0	0.0	-0.8
Banking	5.6	5.7	6.2	-1.8	-0.1	-0.6
Credit Agencies Other Than Bank	4.0	4.0	4.1	0.0	0.0	-0.1
Insurance Carriers	4.6	4.5	4.8	2.2	0.1	-0.2
SERVICES	89.6	88.7	86.7	1.0	0.9	2.9
Health Services	25.9	25.8	25.2	0.4	0.1	0.7
Hospitals	11.7	11.7	11.1	0.0	0.0	0.6
Educational Services	4.7	4.3	4.8	9.3	0.4	-0.1
TOTAL GOVERNMENT	96.9	93.7	97.8	3.4	3.2	-0.9
Total Federal Government	28.8	28.7	30.6	0.3	0.1	-1.8
Total State/Local Gover.	68.1	65.0	67.2	4.8	3.1	0.9
Total State Government	33.7	32.6	33.2	3.4	1.1	0.5
Total Local Government	34.4	32.4	34.0	6.2	2.0	0.4

p=preliminary
r=revised

OKLAHOMA CITY METROPOLITAN AREA

(Oklahoma, Canadian, Cleveland, Logan, McClain and Pottawatomie Counties)

The Oklahoma City Area experienced an upward movement in employment between January and February, according to preliminary labor force estimates. The 3,800 rise brought the months total to 468,800 and reduced the annual drop to 5,500.

A slightly smaller labor force combined with a greatly reduced level of unemployment to produce a jobless rate of 5.5 percent for February. This is almost a one percent drop from January and over one percent lower than the rate recorded a year ago.

Although the employment level was not quite as strong as a year ago, the 20 percent drop in unemployment represents a major improvement from the situation last February.

Estimates of total nonfarm wage and salary employment, based on the employer payroll survey, show a 3,600 rise between January and February. This is the result of employment gains in government and services being of sufficient magnitude to counteract small losses in the other six major industry divisions.

Government expanded by 3,200 as schools reconvened for the Spring term and led by educational services, the service industry moved up 900 positions. Weather conditions improved and the construction industry put 600 back to work.

Manufacturing was off 500 for the month, trade down 400, and the remaining industries had losses of 100 or less.

Compared to February 1987, the payroll series stands at a 2,000 lower level. However, two major industries - services and construction - were showing greater strength than for the same month last year. Services was up by 2,900 and construction ahead by 400. Trade continues to trend downward by 1,500 and transportation/public utilities employment was off by 4.5 percent. Lesser unemployment reductions over the year were estimated in the four other major industry components.

The estimated 34,400 manufacturing production workers lost $10.00 per weekly paycheck in February as the average wage rate dropped 19 cents and the workweek was reduced slightly. Compared to February 1987, a 28 cent better hourly wage rate advanced the average paycheck by almost $16.00.

Durable goods workers benefited from increased wage rates over the year and are now earning more. However, those producing nondurables saw hourly pay slip downward, resulting in lower weekly checks.

OKLAHOMA CITY
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	JAN 88 FEB 88	FEB 87 FEB 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	496,300	496,600	508,700	-300	-12,400
Unemployment	27,500	31,600	34,400	-4,100	-6,900
Unemployment Rate	5.5	6.4	6.8	xxx	xxx
Employment	468,800	465,000	474,300	3,000	-5,500

OKLAHOMA CITY
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	462.58	472.65	446.72	40.9	41.1	40.5	11.31	11.50	11.03
Durable Goods	495.69	504.30	470.70	41.0	41.0	40.3	12.09	12.30	11.68
Prim. & Fab. Metal	402.16	410.08	388.51	45.7	46.6	42.6	8.80	8.80	9.12
Machinery	503.06	515.97	479.60	41.1	40.5	40.1	12.24	12.74	11.96
Nondurable Goods	373.82	388.63	383.35	40.5	41.3	41.0	9.23	9.41	9.35
Food & Kindred Products	320.54	346.43	323.21	42.4	44.3	43.5	7.56	7.82	7.43
Printing & Pub.	382.10	393.21	394.72	36.6	37.7	38.1	10.44	10.43	10.36

p=preliminary
r=revised

TULSA
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	Number In Thousands			Absolute Change From	
	FEB 1988	JAN 1988	FEB 1987	JAN 88 FEB 88	FEB 87 FEB 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	285.7	284.5	287.3	1.2	-1.6
MANUFACTURING	47.4	47.1	47.1	0.3	0.3
DURABLE GOODS	36.1	35.7	36.4	0.4	-0.3
Stone,Clay & Glass Products	3.6	3.6	3.8	0.0	-0.2
Primary & Fabricated Metals	10.2	10.1	9.4	0.1	0.8
Primary Metal Industries	1.8	1.8	1.5	0.0	0.3
Fabricated Metal Products	8.4	8.3	7.9	0.1	0.5
Fab. Struc.Metal Products	4.1	4.1	3.9	0.0	0.2
Machinery	12.6	12.5	12.7	0.1	-0.1
Mach.Except Electric	9.4	9.3	9.6	0.1	-0.2
Const.& Related Machinery	3.6	3.6	3.7	0.0	-0.1
Electric & Electronic Equip.	3.2	3.2	3.1	0.0	0.1
Transportation Equipment	7.2	7.0	8.1	0.2	-0.9
NON-DURABLE GOODS	11.3	11.4	10.7	-0.1	0.6
Printing & Publishing	3.4	3.4	3.3	0.0	0.1
Petroleum & Coal Products	2.0	2.1	1.8	-0.1	0.2
MINING	15.0	15.3	15.0	-0.3	0.0
CONSTRUCTION	8.8	8.9	10.1	-0.1	-1.3
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	23.6	23.5	23.1	0.1	0.5
Transportation	15.5	15.4	15.1	0.1	0.4
Comm.& Public Utilities	8.1	8.1	8.0	0.0	0.1
TRADE	69.1	69.5	69.0	-0.4	0.1
Wholesale Trade	17.5	17.3	17.5	0.2	0.0
Retail Trade	51.6	52.2	51.5	-0.6	0.1
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	16.9	16.9	17.2	0.0	-0.3
Banking	4.2	4.2	4.5	0.0	-0.3
SERVICES	68.5	67.9	69.1	0.6	-0.6
Health Services	22.4	22.5	21.4	-0.1	1.0
Hospitals	12.0	12.0	11.4	0.0	0.6
Educational Services	4.1	3.9	4.8	0.2	-0.7
GOVERNMENT	36.4	35.4	36.7	1.0	-0.3
Federal	4.0	4.1	4.5	-0.1	-0.5
State	6.1	5.4	5.7	0.7	0.4
Local	26.3	25.9	26.5	0.4	-0.2

p=preliminary
r=revised

TULSA METROPOLITAN AREA

(Tulsa, Creek, Osage, Rogers and Wagoner Counties)

The unemployment rate for the Tulsa MSA dropped to 7.5 percent in February, down from the revised January estimate of 8.3 percent and 2.1 percentage points lower than a year ago. The latest household survey data for the Tulsa area indicates an employment growth of 2,000 and a drop in number of unemployed of 2,900 during the month. The unemployment count has contracted by more than 25 percent over the past year; however, dampening the reduction in unemployment is a 4,500 decline in total employment over the year. Also the total labor force shrank by 13,000 or 3.7 percent---for the year. This downward trend for the labor force has prevailed since November 1986 and this month's estimate of 338,000 is the lowest recorded since November 1983.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Tulsa MSA rose to 1,200 above the seasonally depressed January total. The February estimate of 285,700 total wage and salary workers is still 1,600 lower than recorded a year ago. A return to normal employment levels in the education sector caused most of the month-to-month increase of 1,000 jobs in government. Comparison with the previous year's total has the current government employment level at 300 lower. Manufacturing employment is up 300, both for the month and over the year. Job expansion also continued in the transportation industry as 100 jobs were added during the month and the yearly increase was 500.

The services industry recouped only 600 of the 2,100 jobs lost in January. Services employment remains 600 lower than last year as large reductions in educational services and membership organizations combined to outnumber the 1,000 worker expansion in health services. Mixed seasonal adjustments prevailed in the trade industry as the retail sector sustained 600 cuts and the wholesale sector rebounded with 200 new employees during the month. Trade industry employment surpassed last year's total by 100. Employment in the finance, insurance, and real estate industry was unchanged for the month but down by 300 over the year due to reductions in the banking sector.

Mining jobs dipped 300 for the month with reductions occurring primarily in the oil and gas extraction sector. Overall mining employment remains at the same level as last year. Continuing its downward slide was the construction industry with another 100 added to the jobless during the month and a loss of 1,300 employees since last year. This industry accounts for a majority of over-the-year job losses in the Tulsa MSA.

Weekly earnings for the estimated 30,000 production workers in the Tulsa MSA averaged $447.17 during February. This is $14.15 lower than last month, but nearly $25.00 higher than last year. Major factors contributing toward the month-to-month decline in the average weekly paycheck were the one-hour reduction in durable goods workers average work week plus a 17 cent drop in their average hourly earnings. Since durable goods workers outnumber non-durable goods workers in the Tulsa MSA by more than four to one, increased hours and earnings for the non-durable workers had little effect on the overall average. For the year, nearly every category of published data reflects an increase in both hours worked and hourly earnings, resulting in the 5.8 percent annual increase in average weekly earnings.

TULSA
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	JAN 88 FEB 88	FEB 87 FEB 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	338,000	338,900	351,000	-900	-13,000
Unemployment	25,300	28,200	33,800	-2,900	-8,500
Unemployment Rate	7.5	8.3	9.6	XXX	XXX
Employment	312,700	310,700	317,200	2,000	-4,500

TULSA
AVERAGE HOURS AND EARNINGS IN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRIES

INDUSTRY	WEEKLY EARNINGS			WEEKLY HOURS			HOURLY EARNINGS		
	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r
ALL MANUFACTURING	447.17	461.32	422.50	41.1	41.9	40.2	10.88	11.01	10.51
Durable goods	460.02	478.38	441.05	41.0	42.0	40.5	11.22	11.39	10.89
Prim & Fab. Metals	395.76	422.03	386.16	40.8	42.5	41.3	9.70	9.93	9.35
Machinery	412.82	410.59	378.87	41.2	41.1	38.7	10.02	9.99	9.79
Non-Durable Goods	394.70	382.23	345.35	41.9	41.1	39.2	9.42	9.30	8.81
Printing & Pub	448.92	431.80	429.11	43.5	41.4	41.3	10.32	10.43	10.39

p=preliminary
r=revised

ENID METROPOLITAN AREA

(Garfield County)

The unemployment rate for the Enid MSA dropped to 5.9 percent for February, well below both the statewide and nationwide rates. The latest household survey indicates the total labor force, employment, and unemployment all declined during the month. The downward trend in unemployment resumed, after January's seasonal rise, with a 225 drop for the month and a one-third reduction over the past year. Employment hovered 50 higher than last year after the February loss of 100 jobs. The total labor force shrank by 325 for the month and 825 over the past year to reach the lowest recorded level in over five years.

Enid's nonfarm wage and salary employment edged up to 21,800 for February. The slender 100 job increase above the revised January estimate resulted from 100 employee gains each in services, mining, and transportation-public utilities, combined with a seasonal reduction of 200 retail trade workers.

The total expansion of 200 nonfarm jobs is indicated since last year. Services was the only industry to post an annual employment gain over the year as it added 400 new employees. This gain was moderated by job losses totaling 200 in the wholesale and retail trade industry. The six remaining industries sustained the same employment levels as last year.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment in the Enid MSA has been stabilized near the present level for over a year. Little or no growth is anticipated for the next 60 days.

ENID
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER FEB 1988p	NUMBER JAN 1988r	NUMBER FEB 1987r	ABSOLUTE CHANGE JAN 88 FEB 88	ABSOLUTE CHANGE FEB 87 FEB 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	29,575	29,900	30,400	-325	-825
Unemployment	1,750	1,975	2,625	-225	-875
Unemployment Rate	5.9	6.6	8.6	xxx	xxx
Employment	27,825	27,925	27,775	-100	50

ENID
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	ABSOLUTE CHANGE JAN 88 FEB 88	FEB 87 FEB 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	21.8	21.7	21.6	0.1	0.2
MANUFACTURING	1.6	1.6	1.6	0.0	0.0
DURABLE GOODS	0.6	0.6	0.7	0.0	-0.1
NON-DURABLE GOODS	1.0	1.0	0.9	0.0	0.1
MINING	1.0	0.9	1.0	0.1	0.0
CONSTRUCTION	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.0	0.0
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	2.1	2.0	2.1	0.1	0.0
TRADE	6.1	6.3	6.3	-0.2	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	1.4	1.4	1.5	0.0	-0.1
Retail Trade	4.7	4.9	4.8	-0.2	-0.1
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
SERVICES	5.8	5.7	5.4	0.1	0.4
GOVERNMENT	3.6	3.6	3.6	0.0	0.0
Federal	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
State	0.9	0.9	0.9	0.0	0.0
Local	2.3	2.3	2.3	0.0	0.0

p=preliminary
r=revised

LAWTON METROPOLITAN AREA

(Comanche County)

After a slight increase in January, unemployment returned to a down trend and fell by 150 in February. The labor force was unchanged, thereby lowering the jobless rate to 5.2 percent in the current month, compared to 5.5 percent in January. In addition to the falling unemployment numbers, another 150 jobs were found for citizens in the Lawton area.

Compared to the revised estimates of February 1987, both employment and unemployment for the current month are now at slightly lower levels.

Nonfarm wage and salary employment fell to 33,200 in February, down 100 from the January revised estimate. Only three major industry divisions changed over the month, and none by more than 100. Local government and services both fell by 100 as construction rebounded by the same amount to cut the net loss in half.

The over the year decline of 500 in total wage and salary jobs is due mostly to a 300 drop in the transportation-public utility industry which lost some jobs to early retirements and some by transfers to other areas in the state. Even with the monthly drop, both government and service are still ahead of last February.

LAWTON
CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE SUMMARY

ITEM	NUMBER			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	FEB 1988p	JAN 1988r	FEB 1987r	JAN 88 FEB 88	FEB 87 FEB 88
TOTAL LABOR FORCE	49,000	49,000	49,500	0.0	-500
Unemployment	2,525	2,675	2,650	-150	-125
Unemployment Rate	5.2	5.5	5.4	xx	xxx
Employment	46,475	46,325	46,850	150	-375

LAWTON
NON-FARM WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT

Industry	NUMBER IN THOUSANDS			ABSOLUTE CHANGE	
	FEB 1988p	JAN 1987r	FEB 1987r	JAN 88 JAN 88	FEB 87 JAN 88
TOTAL WAGE & SALARY	33.2	33.3	33.7	-0.1	-0.5
MANUFACTURING	3.3	3.3	3.3	0.0	0.0
DURABLE GOODS	0.4	0.4	0.4	0.0	0.0
NON-DURABLE GOODS	2.9	2.9	2.9	0.0	0.0
MINING	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.0	0.0
CONSTRUCTION	1.1	1.0	1.2	0.1	-0.1
TRANSP.& PUBLIC UTILITIES	1.2	1.2	1.5	0.0	-0.3
TRADE	8.3	8.3	8.5	0.0	-0.2
Wholesale Trade	1.0	1.0	1.0	0.0	0.0
Retail Trade	7.3	7.3	7.5	0.0	-0.2
FINANCE,INS.,& REAL ESTATE	1.5	1.5	1.6	0.0	-0.1
SERVICES	5.7	5.8	5.6	-0.1	0.1
GOVERNMENT	11.9	12.0	11.8	-0.1	0.1
Federal	5.7	5.7	5.6	0.0	0.1
State	1.2	1.2	1.3	0.0	-0.1
Local	5.0	5.1	4.9	-0.1	0.1

p=preliminary
r=revised

Please send comments, questions or address changes to Oklahoma Employment Security Commission, Research Department, Room 310, Will Rogers Building, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73105. Phone (405) 557-7260.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OKLAHOMA EMPLOYMENT SECURITY COMMISSION
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